THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) In February, 2004, the Ministry has declared 7457 kms. of State Roads as National Highways including 988 kms. in Rajasthan. It is premature to indicate any time frame for further declaration of National Highways.

Road proposals from Rajasthan

†818. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Rajasthan have sent proposals to the Central Government for strengthening and widening of National Highways in the State;

(b) whether Government have formulated any plan in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of outline and time-limit thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Nine proposals of widening and seven proposals of strengthening the National Highways in Rajasthan have been received in the Ministry amounting to Rs. 77.58 crores and Rs. 45.85 crores, respectively, during the current financial year.

(b) Annual Plan for the year 2004-05 has been formulated for sanction of estimates for an amount of Rs. 159.50 crores for all improvement works on various National Highways in Rajasthan.

(c) and (d) The proposals received from the Government of Rajasthan in respect of Annual Plan works are targeted for sanction during the current financial year depending upon the adequacy of technical parameters, availability of funds and *inter-se* priority of works.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.